

BRANCIFORTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02

A RESOLUTION TO INITIATE APPLICATION BY THE BRANCIFORTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT REQUESTING THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY TO PURSUE PROCEEDINGS FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF BRANCIFORTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT WITH THE SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Branciforte Fire Protection District (“Branciforte FPD”) desires to initiate proceedings pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Herzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, California Government Code Section 56000 et. seq., (“Act”) for the reorganization of Branciforte Fire Protection District with the Scotts Valley Fire Protection District (“Scotts Valley FPD”); and

WHEREAS, the reorganization consists of the dissolution of Branciforte FPD and the concurrent annexation of the dissolved area into Scotts Valley FPD; and

WHEREAS, notice of intent to adopt this Resolution of Application has been given to each interested and each affected local agency; and

WHEREAS, the affected territory is inhabited and is constituted by the respective boundaries of Branciforte FPD; and

WHEREAS, this reorganization is consistent with the Sphere of Influence of Branciforte FPD and Scotts Valley FPD; and

WHEREAS, the reasons for the proposed reorganization of Branciforte FPD and Scotts Valley FPD are as follows:

- 1) It will facilitate the efficient delivery of life and property saving services to individuals and property owners within the affected territory; and
- 2) It will facilitate the continued provision of the current levels of service provided by paid and paid-call firefighters and staff of the respective districts, consistent with local demand expectations and available financing.

WHEREAS, it is desired that the proposed reorganization of Branciforte FPD with Scotts Valley FPD be subject to the following terms and conditions, among others:

- 1) The specific provisions of the Pre-Reorganization Agreement jointly completed by Branciforte FPD, Scotts Valley FPD, and LAFCO, if enacted;
- 2) Branciforte FPD, Scotts Valley FPD, and LAFCO will host and/or participate in multiple community outreach efforts regarding the proposed reorganization and

available options, including but not limited to workshops and forums to be held jointly with representatives from each agency;

- 3) Coordination between Branciforte FPD, Scotts Valley FPD, and LAFCO to determine the best solution for the Branciforte Fire Station;
- 4) The paid employees and the active volunteer firefighters of Branciforte FPD will become a portion of Scotts Valley FPD;
- 5) All tax rate areas will be maintained and all revenue mechanisms currently existing in Branciforte FPD will be maintained post-reorganization; and
- 6) Such other provisions as required by applicable law or as may be agreed by the parties.

WHEREAS, Branciforte FPD reserves the right to withdraw its application to initiate the reorganization and request that LAFCO terminate any such proceedings pursuant to the Act or other applicable law;

WHEREAS, this Board anticipates that the reorganization proposal is categorically exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15320(b), which exempts special district reorganizations where changes in organization of local governmental agencies do not change the geographical area in which the previously existing powers are exercised, such as here; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution of Initiation of reorganization proceedings as described is adopted and approved by the Board of Directors of the Branciforte Fire Protection District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Branciforte Fire Protection District at a regular meeting thereof held on the 24th of February, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Pat O'Connell, Board President

Samantha Sweeden, Fire Chief